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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590 03/22/2002

JERRY A MILLER  
SONY CORPORATION OF AMERICA  
1 SONY DRIVE MD T1 1  
PARK RIDGE, NJ 07656

EXAMINER

HOMERE, JEAN RAYMOND

ART UNIT

CLASS-SUBCLASS

2177

707-104000

DATE MAILED: 03/22/2002

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/074,683	05/08/1998	JOHN M. VAN RYZIN	50L2090	2630

TITLE OF INVENTION: AN IMPROVED METHOD FOR CREATING, MODIFYING, AND PLAYING A CUSTOM PLAYLIST SAVED AS A VIRTUAL CD, TO BE PLAYED BY A DIGITAL AUDIO/VISUAL ACTUATOR DEVICE

TOTAL CLAIMS	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
23	nonprovisional	NO	\$1280	\$0	\$1280	06/24/2002

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

B. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.  
See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

## PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

**Complete and mail this form, together with applicable fee(s), to:**

**Box ISSUE FEE  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**MAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 4 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Legibly mark-up with any corrections or use Block 1)  
 7590                    03/22/2002

**JERRY A MILLER  
SONY CORPORATION OF AMERICA  
1 SONY DRIVE MD T11  
PARK RIDGE, NJ 07656**

Note: The certificate of mailing below can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing.

**Certificate of Mailing**  
 I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Box Issue Fee address above on the date indicated below.

	(Depositor's name)
	(Signature)
	(Date)

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EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
HOMERE, JEAN RAYMOND	2177	707-104000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). Use of PTO form(s) and Customer Number are recommended, but not required.

- Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47) attached.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 \_\_\_\_\_

**3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)**

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent)       individual     corporation or other private group entity     government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

- Issue Fee  
 Publication Fee  
 Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

- A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.  
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
 The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

The COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

(Authorized Signature)

(Date)

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending on the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES AND THIS FORM TO: Box Issue Fee, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMIT THIS FORM WITH FEE(S)



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7590	03/22/2002		EXAMINER	
JERRY A MILLER SONY CORPORATION OF AMERICA 1 SONY DRIVE MD T1 1 PARK RIDGE, NJ 07656			HOMERE, JEAN RAYMOND	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2177	
			DATE MAILED: 03/22/2002	

**Determination of Patent Term Extension under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)**  
(application filed after June 7, 1995 but prior to May 29, 2000)

The patent term extension is 0 days. Any patent to issue from the above identified application will include an indication of the 0 day extension on the front page.

If a continued prosecution application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines patent term extension is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. (<http://pair.uspto.gov>)

## Notice of Allowability

Application No. 09/074,683	Applicant(s) Van Ryzin
Examiner Jean R. Homere	Art Unit 2177



--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 1/16/2002.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 11-14, 16-25, now renumbered as 1-23.
3.  The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable as formal drawings.
4.  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).  
a)  All      b)  Some\*      c)  None of the:
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

5.  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

6.  Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
7.  Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1)  hereto or 2)  Paper No. 3.
  - (b)  including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the examiner.
  - (c)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

8.  Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                    | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____    |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449), Paper No(s). _____          | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
| 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |  |

  
JEAN R. HOMERE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 2177

#11C  
3/22/02  
A.W.

## DETAILED ACTION

### Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Renee Michelle Larson, Reg. No. 36,193 on 03/21/2002.

2. The application has been amended as follows:
  - A. Please cancel claims 10 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter thereof.
  - B. Please replace claim 1 with the following:

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    1. -- A method for generating a custom playlist in a non-volatile memory of a digital audio/visual actuator device, said playlist suitable to be played by the digital audio/visual actuator device, comprising the steps of:

creating the custom playlist on an external device with a graphical user interface;  
transferring the custom playlist to the digital audio/visual actuator device by downloading a playlist file that contains the custom playlist from the external device to the digital

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Art Unit: 2177

audio/visual actuator device over a communications link between the external device and  
the digital audio/visual actuator device; and  
*C1*  
saving the custom playlist in said non-volatile memory of the digital audio/visual actuator  
device.---

- C. In claim 11, line 1, delete "10" and insert therefor --1--.
- D. In claim 12, line 1, delete "10" and insert therefor --1--.
- E. In claim 13, line 1, delete "10" and insert therefor --1--.
- F. In claim 14, line 1, delete "10" and insert therefor --1--.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean R. Homere whose telephone number is (703)-308-6647. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 09:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at (703)-305-9790.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:** Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231, **or faxed to:** (703) 746-7239, (for formal communications intended for entry), **or faxed to:** (703) 746-7238, (for after final communications intended for entry), **Or:** (703) 746-7240(for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"). Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Jean R. Homere

Jean R. Homere  
Primary Examiner, A.U. 2177  
March 21, 2002

*JR*  
JEAN R. HOMERE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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